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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

REPORT

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STATE

Nachrichten fuer Aussenhandel.

DEVELOP NEW BUILDING MATERIALS; BOOST CEMENT PRODUCTION

RESTRICT USE OF WOOD -- Berlin, Nachrichten fuer Aussenhandel, 10 Jan 51

The chief of the Division for Wood in the State Secretariat for Materials Supply estimates the available stocks of wood in the German Democratic Republic at one third of the requirements submitted for 1951.

To alleviate the situation, a decree has been issued forbidding the use of building timber as fuel wood, calling for maximum yields from wood processing, and ordering revised consumption standards for the wood-processing industry. The development of additional wood substitutes was ordered.

Attention was called to the experiments of the People-Owned Wood-Construction Enterprises, who used anhydrite building plates instead of wooden boards in the construction of houses and who have successfully substituted magnesite xylolith for wood in laying floors.

START PRODUCTION OF FIBERBOARD -- Berlin, Nachrichten fuer Aussenhandel, 13 Jan 51

The people-owned Schoenheide Fiberboard Works in the Erzgebirge mountains have installed special equipment for the manufacture of boards. This new process will bring about a considerable conservation of wood in the manufacture of furniture. Production of floor boards measuring 1 x 2 meters is also scheduled for. the near future.

EXCEED QUOTA FOR CEMENT -- Berlin, Nachrichten fuer Aussenhandel, 24 Jan 51

During the last quarter of 1950, the resple-owned cement industry of the German Democratic Republic produced 20,000 tons of cement in excess of the output provided for under the plan. The Schwanebeck, Karsdorf, and Steudnitz works are responsible for approximately 14,000 tons of cement in excess of the quota.

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